

The Guernsey Clematis Nursery Limited

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Press Release

Clematis x cartmanii AVALANCHE™ 'Blaaval' (N)

This marvellous new evergreen clematis raised by Robin White of Blackthorn Nurseries is a great addition to the evergreen clematis grown in British gardens, mainly *C. armandii* and *C. cirrhosa*. As a garden plant, I believe, its foliage is far more attractive, due to its glossy dissected leaves, and its flowers are far more showy than either of these species or their cultivars.

Enclosed is Robin White's detailed description of his clematis.

It can be grown outside, as Robin White describes, in most areas in the UK; in colder areas it will need the protection of a cold glasshouse or conservatory. Its use as a conservatory plant should be pointed out for both its foliage and flower effect, whether in a container or in a soil situation. As a container grown plant it offers many advantages for the patio or smaller town garden. It looks charming scrambling out of a large old chimney pot for example. In colder areas a container grown plant can offer the chance of protection during a bad winter by moving it under cover, returning it to its place on the patio at the point of flowering.

This delightful new clematis is now available at a wide range of Garden Centres in the UK. For more detailed information of where it can be obtained please send a stamped addressed envelope to:

The Anglia Group of Nurseries Ltd
Mill Lane
Morley St. Botolph
Wymondham
Norfolk
NR18 9TN

BOTANICAL NAME : Clematis x cartmanii 'Avalanche'

ORIGIN: A selected seedling from a cross made at Blackthorn Nursery by Robin White. Pollen parent was Clematis paniculata, seed parent Clematis marmoraria. These are both evergreen species from New Zealand

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Evergreen, woody climber. If left unpruned can grow 4 - 5 metres. Capable of making 2 metres of growth in a season. Stems dull purple. Shiny green foliage, leaflets attractively dissected in varying amounts. Leaves may have dark bronze central marking. Panicles of flowers are produced in great profusion on previous seasons wood in April - May, generally six white tepals with creamy-yellow stamens. The flowers are 7 - 8cms in diameter. Like all New Zealand clematis, this plant is dioecious, and is male.

SOIL REQUIREMENTS: Lime tolerant. Well-drained humus-rich, providing adequate moisture through the growing season.

EXPOSURE: Semi-shade to sun. Cool root run.

PRUNING: Not required if growing into large shrubs or small trees or allowing to cover a large area. However, grown in a container, or confined area, the plant can be pruned immediately flowering has finished, cutting back the previous seasons growth to leave 2 - 3 nodes.

HARDINESS: Degree of hardiness has yet to be truly established, but plants have survived freezing solid in containers, undamaged. Mature growth will definitely stand temperatures of -8C to -10C. Flowers can be damaged by late spring frosts.

USES: In a container, grown on a frame or trained on a wall. Excellent in a conservatory in colder areas. Planted in the open ground it can be grown into deciduous shrubs, small trees or cover a considerable area on walls or fences. Given no support it will make good ground cover, or look superb trailing down banks or large rock areas.

UK Plant Variety Rights granted. *GRANT NO 6902*
Community Plant Variety Rights applied for.
Propagation for sale without a licence prohibited.

UK launch Spring 1999

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